

interface and also fails to disclose or suggest a context adaptable input device connected with the graphic user interface, where the graphic user interface provides a user with a variable context.

Conversely, the present invention claims a revenue meter that includes a graphic user interface that provides a variable context and/or a context adaptable input device connected with the revenue meter. The input device, such as keypad 32, presents information, such as status of the input, or messages to the microprocessor, microcontroller or any other central control device. The microprocessor in turn performs actions depending on the type of input and the current operating mode of the revenue meter. (Specification p.10 lines 21-25). The display may be programmed using the input device (Specification p. 11 lines 10-12) giving users specific information required at the site of the revenue meter. Therefore, the function of the input device is adaptable in accordance with the context of the information displayed on the graphic user interface.

Since Coryea et al. does not disclose or suggest the claimed "graphic user interface connected with the revenue meter" and/or "a context adaptable input device located on said meter cover and connected with the revenue meter," Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn. Moreover, claim 20 depends from claim 1 and therefore includes all of the features of claim 1, plus additional features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 20 also be withdrawn.

Claims 2-19 and 21-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coryea et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Coryea et al. fails to disclose or suggest the claimed graphic user interface and/or a keypad operative to interact with the graphic user interface.

Regarding claim 23, as set forth above with regard to claim 1, Coryea et al. fails to disclose a graphic user interface and/or a keypad operative to interact with a graphic user interface. Conversely, claim 23 of the present invention recites a revenue meter that includes a graphic user interface and a keypad connected with the meter and operative to interact with the graphic user interface. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 23 be withdrawn.

Moreover, claims 2-19 and 21-22 depend from claim 1, directly or indirectly, and therefore include all the features of claims 1 plus additional features. Claims 24-31 depend from claim 23, directly or indirectly, and therefore include all the features of claims 23 plus additional features. Therefore, applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-19, 21-22 and 24-31 also be withdrawn.

In addition, new claims 32 and 33 are patentable for at least the reasons set forth above, and for the additional reason that Coryea et al. neither discloses or suggests the claimed feature of the graphic user interface displaying at least one of a scalable text, a rectangle and a chart. New claims 32 and 33 are supported by the specification as originally filed, which states that the graphic user interface can display "graphical objects such as scalable text, lines, circles rectangles, charts, etc." (Specification p. 11 lines 21-22).

For all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number if there are any outstanding issues that could be resolved through a telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Appendix A  
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

On page 10, please amend the paragraph contained in line 3 to line 12 as follows:

Referring to FIGS. 1-3, the S-base and A-base revenue meters' cover 24, and the Switchboard revenue meter's cover 48, are at least partially transparent. The transparency permits viewing of the meter's display 28 including a graphic user interface (GUI)(not shown) without having to remove the cover 24. As mentioned above, the meter cover 24 provides the context adaptable input device such as the keypad 32 for interacting with the revenue meter while the meter cover 24, 48 remains in place. Artisans will appreciate that the keypad 32 can be replaced with other context adaptable input devices, such as a touch screen 1100, a mouse 1110, a track ball 1120, a light pen 1130, a membrane switch 1140, joystick 1150, dial 1160, or other similar devices.